

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

Aging and Long-Term Support Administration PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

April 30, 2021

ALTSA: AFH #2021-023 ALTSA: ALF #2021-023 ALTSA: ESF #2021-021

ALTSA: CCRSS #2021-019

RESUMING FINGERPRINT BACKGROUND CHECKS

Dear Administrator/Provider:

On March 18, 2020, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-18, which suspended the fingerprint background check requirements for long-term care facilities. Once the temporary suspension of the requirement ends, long-term care workers will again need to complete a fingerprint-based background check as required by law.

Although the COVID-19 public health emergency continues to affect our state, many fingerprint background check locations are open and able to safely provide fingerprint background checks to long-term care staff. While providers have been very diligent in scheduling employee fingerprint appointments when they were able, Department records show that there may be over twenty thousand individuals who still need to complete their fingerprint-based background check.

We are asking all providers to review their BCS account and 1) have your current employees complete the fingerprint-based background check and 2) withdraw fingerprint inquiries for any individuals who either were not hired or are no longer employed at your facility or home.

<u>Here</u> is a list of fingerprint locations that are currently open and available to provide fingerprint background checks. If you have any questions, please contact Debra Hoeman, Policy Program Manager, at (360) 725-3210 or <u>debra.hoeman@dshs.wa.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Mike Anbesse, Director Residential Care Services

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